

further point out that there is a tremendous market for ethyl alcohol, potable alcohols, you see, so we have a real potential here.

SENATOR BARNETT: I am glad you answered some of those questions, Senator Lewis, because it seems to me all I have ever done is read in the paper where they are running into problems and they seem never to get anything started. They talk about a plant and then they don't get a plant and I am glad that you have, at least, cleared my mind or at least straightened it out a little bit as to what this alcohol commission or program is going to come up with, this gasohol program. I only hope that they do get a little busier than what they have been and try to get something into production so that the people can see something that is happening, so that they know we are not just wasting the money or effort or time on just research and that type of program and I am glad you have talked about it a little bit because sometimes we don't discuss it enough.

PRESIDENT: Senator Loran Schmit.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: I appreciate your interest.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I support Senator Richard Lewis' amendment, and as I said several days ago, the responsibility of this committee goes beyond energy. It's principle responsibility when we organized it was to find new uses for agricultural products. That is why they call it the Ag Products Committee. Now along with that as part of the projects we outlined the research and utilization of alcohol as an extender for fuels, and of course, at that time, it was, as I said earlier, ridiculed because we had so doggoned much cheap petroleum in this country. It was never expected that we would have any danger of running out. But the responsibility that this committee must face deals not only with the production of alcohol, but what do you do with the by-products. Now I would just like to point out that we have as a by-product of this production of alcohol a protein, a very fine source of energy. We have many people in the world who are starving and one of the prime concerns of this committee has been how to utilize this protein, which can presently be utilized as an animal food, as a human food. This is only one of the main goals but it is a very important one. In a world that faces starvation, as we have heard time after time, it ought to be one of our higher ones. I know that many people today are concerned about the fact that the committee has not made much progress but I would like to say that it is not where we are at but where do we start from. We started way down in the hole and we have come a long way. I want to say, also, I hope the same amount of dedication is directed toward the oversight of the spending of the rest of the 400 million dollars, the money we have in this budget, as we have towards this 130 thousand, and again I want to emphasize that this money comes from the money that would normally go back to the farmers. It is money that would be in the farmers pockets and very few farmers have complained. There have been some questions concerning the activity, yes, but they are still dedicated to the idea that with \$2 corn and \$2.25 wheat, low priced grains generally, we certainly need to continue the development of this committee whether it ever produces a gallon of alcohol or not. There needs to be some new development in the market place. I have visited with Senator